



Division I-AAA Legislative Headlines



*An electronic newsletter provided by
The Division I-AAA Athletics Directors Association
on NCAA legislative trends and issues affecting Division I-AAA*

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THOUGHTS FROM CHAIR OF I-AA/AAA PRESIDENTIAL ADVISORY GROUP (PAG)

Walter Harrison is the President of the University of Hartford and the chair of the I-AA/AAA PAG. (Pat Meiser-McKnett, the director of athletics at Hartford, is a member of the Division I-AAA Athletics Director Association). TCG recently e-mailed President Harrison to obtain his thoughts on the issues affecting Division I-AAA that he believed may be considered over the next year by PAG and about any role that the I-AAA Athletics Directors Association may play.

He believed that PAG has a very important role in the NCAA governance structure since only seven of the 20 I-AA and I-AAA conferences are represented at any one time on the NCAA Division I Board of Directors. The PAG provides the opportunity for the seven presidents to get advice on matters coming before the Board from presidents (and commissioners and athletics directors) of the other conferences. The PAG also allows the presidents to raise issues that they wish brought to the attention of the entire Board.

President Harrison believed that since the group has been meeting, several excellent and lively discussions have occurred, which allows for an important forum for I-AA and I-AAA presidential discussion.

During its April meeting, the PAG asked that the following three subjects be placed on the agenda for further discussion: legislative deregulation, the role of the CEO in the Division I governance structure, and negative fan behavior. President Harrison confirmed that these were items of interest to PAG and he believed that academic reform and fiscal responsibility also will be discussed in detail. (He is the chair of the Committee on Academic Performance).

He had not thought about any interaction with the I-AAA Athletics Directors Association because he was not aware of its existence and inquired whether an association also existed for I-AA. Since he expressed interest in the group, TCG recommends that the I-AAA Athletics Director Association update him occasionally on issues concerning the Association.

DID YOU KNOW?

1. For the upcoming NBA Draft, 61 collegiate and 12 high school athletes have registered. Approximately seven of the athletes are from Division I-AAA schools.
2. In women's and men's basketball, of the approximately 9,747 student-athletes in all divisions, approximately five percent are considered international student-athletes.
3. The soon-to-be-developed NCAA Amateurism Clearinghouse Certification will not cover all areas of Bylaw 12. A NCAA internal working group is reviewing the scope of the amateurism

clearinghouse's responsibilities. Member institutions will continue to have the responsibility to determine if there are any issues with some of the areas of the amateurism bylaws not covered by the clearinghouse. In addition, institutions will be responsible for certifying compliance with all amateurism bylaws after a student-athlete's initial enrollment.

SPORTS WAGERING

Sports Wagering Case – A men's soccer student-athlete placed a \$10 wager with a friend on the 2005 Super Bowl. The university became aware of the violation when the student-athlete mentioned to the academic advisor that he "had money" on the game. The academic advisor reported the conversation to the compliance office. The student-athlete was required to donate \$10 to charity, be withheld from the first regular season contest for the 2005 fall semester, and be withheld from the first week of practice during the non-traditional 2005 spring season. (Case #25195, 3/8/05)

What is a Tout Service? – Tout services provide information to individuals about specific teams and games to assist the individuals in placing wagers. In essence, a tout service sells betting tips. Tout services often imply in their marketing materials that they have received information from individuals close to collegiate athletics programs. It is contrary to NCAA Bylaw 10.3 to provide information to individuals associated with tout services.

LEGISLATION

Last month's issue of the newsletter detailed legislation adopted by the Board of Directors and Management Council. This month will focus upon some applications/interpretations of this or previously adopted legislation.

[Correction: In the last newsletter, it incorrectly was indicated that Proposal 02-82 (permitting a recruited football and basketball student-athlete who receives non-athletically related financial aid to compete without counting in the institution's financial aid limits) was passed by both the Management Council and Board of Directors. However, the legislation was enacted by the Management Council, but the Board of Directors referred it back to the Management Council for further review.]

Summer Activities

As a result of Proposal 2003-83, it is not permissible for an individual who officially registers, enrolls, and attends classes during the summer prior to initial enrollment and receives institutional athletics aid:

- To engage in voluntary conditioning activities conducted by a department-wide strength and conditioning coach, except as permitted in the sports of football and basketball as outlined in Bylaw 13.12.3.9;
- To engage in noncountable athletically related activities (e.g., safety exception, summer workouts in individual sports) with an institution's coaches;
- To be employed as camp counselors in an institution's camp;
- To participate on a local sports club that involves an institution's coach in the applicable sport unless all provisions of Bylaw 13.12.2.3 (e.g., legal residence within a 50-mile radius of the institution) are satisfied; or
- To participate on an institution's foreign tour in the applicable sport.

It is permissible for the individual:

- To engage in voluntary weightlifting or conditioning activities on the institution's campus in the presence of the institution's strength and conditioning coach;
- To participate as a camper in institutional camps or clinics, except in the sport of football;
- To receive medical expenses that result from any injuries (athletically or nonathletically related) as set forth in Bylaw 16.4.1;
- To receive tutoring and other academically related expenses as set forth in Bylaw 16.3.1;
- To receive occasional meals as set forth in Bylaw 16.12.1.5;
- To have face-to-face encounters (contact) with athletics department staff members outside of a contact period (including dead periods); or
- To use institutional athletics equipment pursuant to the institution's normal equipment policy as set forth in Bylaw 16.12.1.7.

Financial Aid

As a result of Proposal 2004-14 (in April 2004, effective May 1, 2005), NCAA Bylaw 15.2.8.1.4 allows an institution to provide athletically related financial aid to a prospect in any sport (including a prospect not certified by the clearinghouse as a qualifier) to attend an institution in the summer, prior to the prospect's initial, full-time enrollment at the institution, subject to the following conditions:

1. The recipient shall be admitted to the awarding member institution in accordance with regular, published entrance requirements;
2. The recipient is enrolled in a minimum of six hours of academic course work (other than physical education courses) that is acceptable degree credit toward any of the institution's degree programs;
3. The recipient, if recruited, is subject to NCAA transfer provisions pursuant to Bylaw 14.5.2-(h), unless admission to the institution as a full-time student is denied;
4. During the summer term or orientation period, the recipient shall not engage in any countable athletically related activities except for those activities specifically permitted in Bylaw 17; and
5. Summer coursework is not used for the purpose of completing initial-eligibility (i.e., prospects with learning disabilities) or continuing-eligibility (i.e., transfer eligibility, progress toward degree) requirements.



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